



D. Gaudin
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[10191/857]

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventors : Gerhard SCHNEIDER et al.
Serial No. : 09/176,124
Filed : October 21, 1998
For : PLANAR SENSOR ELEMENT
Examiner : Ta Tung
Art Unit : 1743

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Date April 4, 2001 Atty's Reg. # _____

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Atty's Signature *Chandra Senarai*
KENYON & KENYON

AMENDMENT

S I R:

In response to the Official Action of December 4, 2000, kindly amend the above-captioned application as follows.

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IN THE CLAIMS:

Amend claims 1 and 3 as follows:

1. (Thrice Amended) A planar sensor element for determining at least one gas component, comprising:
a layer structure including:
an electrically functioning layer;
an electrically non-functioning covering layer;
a heating element disposed between the electrically functioning layer and the electrically non-functioning covering layer and generating a heating power, a layer-shaped heating conductor being embedded in the heating element,
wherein the layer-shaped heating conductor is arranged in a layer plane of the layer structure to obtain an at least approximately homogeneous distribution of the heating power over a cross-section of the layer structure.

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3. (Thrice Amended) The planar sensor element according to claim 1,

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